

TOPIC Soviet Troops Leaving the Perleberg Military Post

EVALUATION ☐ 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED ☐ 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 12 to 15 April 1953

DATE OBTAINED ☐ DATE PREPARED 28 April 1953

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE ☐ 25X1X

1. Beginning 12 April 1953, Soviet troop units stationed in Perleberg left the post by road or rail, presumably for the Schweinrich troop training grounds. The troops marched not through but around the town. Source was not able to obtain detailed information because of the strict security measures and the darkness. Colonel Barabash (fnu) was transferred to the U.S.S.R. He was succeeded by Colonel Bragin (fmu). The bulk of the unit left on 12 and 13 April. Some of the trucks were loaded with ammunition in Spiegelhagen. On 15 April, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by only a rear detail of about company strength. Source expressed the belief that an undetermined number of tanks were still in the installation. An informant stated that the units stationed in the Fliegerhorst installation also left after 12 April. Troop trains observed in the Rosenhagen area en route toward Pritzwalk on 12 and 13 April included: a train carrying 12 T-34 tanks, 16 trucks, 4 x 57-mm AT guns and 4 x 120-mm mortars; a train carrying 11 T-43 tanks, 8 x 120-mm mortars, 8 trucks, 6 AA guns of an undetermined caliber, and 4 tank trucks; a train carrying 10 T-43 tanks, 18 x 37-mm AA guns, 5 searchlights, and 6 trucks; and a train carrying 12 trucks, 6 radio trucks, 6 ambulances, 4 tank trucks and presumably 6 rocket launchers. The tanks on the first three trains had numbers between 453 and 486, which were known from the Artillerie Kaserne. The AA guns are believed to have come from the Fliegerhorst installation. On 15 April, a column of 14 trucks towing howitzers, probably of 122-mm; 6 trucks, and 2 radio trucks passed through Perleberg, proceeding toward Pritzwalk. ☐¹

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1. ☐ Comment. According to another source, the bulk of the 58th Mecz Regt of the 18th Mecz Div stationed in the Artillerie Kaserne had been entrained for the Wittstock troop training grounds on 12 and 13 April, whereas the units stationed in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne started loadings only on 13 April. ☐ The troop movements mentioned in this report tend to indicate that the 592d Mort Regt (US) and the 2511th AAA Regt (US) of the division, prior to their departure, had been stationed in Perleberg. The column observed on 15 April probably belonged to the 1054th How Arty Regt of the division, elements of which are fairly definitely believed to have been en route from Ludwigs-
lust to Wittstock via Perleberg. Colonel Barabash (fnu) has been known as commanding officer of the 58th Mecz Regt since long. Colonel Bragin is mentioned for the first time.

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